

**REMARKS**

Prior to entry of this Amendment After Final, claims 1-3, 5-7, 9-12, and 25-30 are pending with claims 1-3, 5-7, and 25-28 withdrawn from consideration. In an Advisory Action mailed October 21, 2005, the Examiner indicated that the Request for Reconsideration filed on October 3, 2005 did not place the application in condition for allowance. Applicants continue to maintain that claims 9-12, 29, and 30, currently under examination, are all in condition for allowance. Nevertheless, to advance prosecution Applicants propose to amend independent claim 9 to include the subject matter of claim 29 and rewrite claim 30 in independent form. Applicants also propose to cancel claim 29 in view of their proposal to incorporate its subject matter into independent claim 9. In view of the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in claims 29 and 30, Applicants submit that their proposed amendments placed claims 9-12 and 30, all of the claims currently under examination, in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully request that this Amendment under 37 C. F. R. § 1.116 be entered by the Examiner, placing claims 9-12 and 30 in condition for allowance. The proposed amendments do not raise new issues or necessitate the undertaking of any additional search of the art by the Examiner. Therefore, this Amendment should allow for immediate and favorable action by the Examiner.

Further, Applicants submit that the entry of the Amendment After Final would place the application in better form for appeal, should the Examiner continue to dispute the patentability of the pending claims.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of pending claims 9-12 and 30.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: November 3, 2005

By: 

Richard V. Burgujian  
Reg. No. 31,744